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CAPTAIN SCOTT'S NARRATIVE OF ANTARCTIC EXPERIENCES

(Continued from Page Nine.)

struments were in full swing and all records complete to date. All the news was good except the loss of one of the nine remaining ponies and one dog. During our absence there had been much wind, the mean velocity for two months being twenty-four miles per hour. For 19 per cent of the whole time the wind had been over gale strength. All observations pointed to an exceptionally severe season.

April 17 I returned to Hut point with a fresh sledge party carrying supply stores. As it was impossible for animals to travel on the route taken, I left Meares and five others in charge of those at Hut point, and again returned to Cape Evans April 3. Sea ice continued to drive out of the sound until the first week in May. It was not until May 13, three weeks after the sun had gone, that the men and animals left Hut point and safely returned to the main station. The sound froze solid in May, and later in winter packed ice extended to an unprecedented distance northward, despite numerous gales.

Lectures and Foot Ball.

After the return of the absentees we settled down very comfortably in our winter hut. Its arrangements for lighting, heating, cooking and ventilation proved eminently satisfactory. A comfortable stable had been built for the ponies and some shelter improvised for the dogs during the four winter months. The temperature at the station was rarely below minus 40 degrees, at lowest minus 50 degrees. The wind averaged fifteen miles an hour, but sometimes blew hard with the temperature minus 30 degrees. Every one was very fully occupied with station and scientific work, exercising animals, etc. A series of lectures was organized and foot ball was played to within a month of midwinter.

Winter Explorations.

Frequent visits were made to Cape Royds and Hut point. The animals steadily improved in condition. On June 27, middle winter, Wilson, Bowers, Cherry and Garrard started on a sledge journey to Cape Crozier to observe the incubation of emperor penguins at their rookery. Very heavy surface on the barrier forced the party to relay work during the main part, and a fortnight was taken on the outward journey. The temperature was seldom above minus 60 degrees, and often below minus 70 degrees, the lowest observed with a sling thermometer being minus 77 degrees.

Behind a land ridge on the slopes of Mount Terror the party spent three days in building a stone hut which they roofed with canvas from this camp. The men had great difficulty in crossing the huge barrier pressure ridges in the dim noon twilight to reach the rookery. They were successful at a second attempt. They found comparatively few birds at the rookery, but these had begun to lay eggs at this early date. Fortunately some eggs at different stages of development were secured, which should give considerable information concerning the embryology of this interesting bird.

Fearful Hurricane Gusts.

The same night a violent gale commenced and the ridge proved inadequate shelter from the hurricane gusts which whirled down on the hut. A tent and other carefully secured articles were blown away, and after straining for fourteen hours the roof of the hut flew to ribbons. For thirty hours more the travelers were confined in their frozen sleeping beds, half buried beneath snow and rock debris. Forty-eight hours elapsed before the wind decreased and they were able to get a meal. Searching for lost articles they were fortunate in finding the missing tent among some moraine boulders, practically uninjured.

The state of their equipment now forced them to turn homeward. On the return journey they were held for two days by another storm, after which the temperature fell and remained below minus sixty degrees. The party returned after five weeks' absence, incased in ice and suffering from want of sleep, but otherwise well.

Having regard to the darkness and extreme temperatures, this first winter journey in the antarctic remains a remarkable feat of endurance. It also shows the extraordinary severe conditions that obtain on the great snow plain barrier during the sunless season. Since the return of the sun in August considerable increase of wind has been recorded, and temperatures have remained as moderate in spring as in winter.

September 1 Meares and Mimihiri, with dog teams, made their headquarters at Hut point, the dogs leaving for that depot in splendid form. At intervals since our arrival, however, some obscure disease has robbed us of four excellent dogs. In every case the dog attacked appeared vigorously healthy, but died in a few hours. It is thought the cause may be some minute thread worm entering the brain.

First Antarctic Telephone Line.

At the end of the month telephone communication was established with Hut point through fifteen miles of bare wire. This telephone has already proved extremely useful for reporting the movement of parties, pending changes of weather. Lieut. Evans, Gran and Forde traveled to Corner camp to rebuild cairns. They experienced temperatures between minus 60 and 70, and Forde's hands were badly frostbitten, but are now recovering rapidly.

With Bowers, Simpson and Petty Officer Evans, I traveled west September 15. Ascending Ferrar glacier, we found by stakes planted by Wright that the ice stream had moved thirty feet in seven months. Later, forty-five miles northwest of our station, we found part of the glacier tongue broken in March, with the forage depot left by Campbell intact. Owing to work at the station and the need of increasing exercise for the ponies, we have been unable to undertake further spring journeys.

The western geological party, consisting of Taylor, Debenham, Gran and Forde, delayed by Forde's accident, will leave in a few days for Granite harbor.

All plans and preparations for the southern journey are now complete and, despite the accident of last season, we have great hope of success. The necessity of getting the utmost out of our remaining ponies has decided me not to expose them to great cold. We shall, therefore, start later than originally intended.

Motor Sledges Do Well.

The motor sledge party, consisting of Lieut. Evans, Bay, Lashley and Hooper, started five days ago, with two motor sledges dragging fuel and forage. The motors experienced unexpected difficulty on sea ice where it was thinly covered with snow, but were last seen going well on the surface of the barrier beyond the base camp of last season. They have, therefore, placed the possibilities of motor traction beyond question.

The pony party, consisting of myself, with Wilson, Oates, Bowers, Cherry, Garrard, Atkinson, Wright, Evans, Crean and Keohane, will start about November 1. Independently of the success of the motors, ponies will be worked with light loads in easy marches to Corner Camp, with full loads and easy marches to One-Ton camp, and with such pressure as necessary thereafter. Dog teams starting will join us at One-Ton camp and help to advance loads. By these means we hope to get thirty units of food to the foot of Beardmore glacier, a unit being a week's provision for four men. Then with three divisions of four men and twenty-one units of provisions, I hope to extend the advance to the required distance if the weather conditions are not wholly unfavorable.

Decides to Stay a Year Longer.

Of the ten remaining ponies one is unreliable and one doubtful, the remainder being in very fine form. Officers and men are in splendid health and eager to go forward. Owing to my decision to postpone, there is an obvious chance that the most advanced southerly party will be unable to catch the Terra Nova before she is forced to quit the sound. Under these conditions, having regard to important scientific work done and facilities offered for further work, I have decided to maintain the station for a second year. The majority of the shore party will probably remain, but details depend upon the date of our returning from our journey, on home news, and the extent of fresh transport provided. I shall greatly regret the departure of any member, as we have lived in the happiest social accord. Pointing probably returns with a large batch of photographic material, to which a second year might add little of importance. Owing to Pointing, the photographic results of the expedition are a most remarkable series of cinematograph pictures, giving a comprehensive record of our polar life. The plans arranged for the scientific work of the expedition have succeeded so far almost in their entirety.

Off for the South Pole.

November 24, latitude 81.15 S.—We left Hut point on the eve of November 2, having decided to march by night and rest during the day to give the ponies the benefit of warmer day temperature. We reached Corner Camp this morning. Traveling south for sixty miles, we followed the tracks of the motors, then we found the machines abandoned. The party had proceeded onward as directed, was delayed by a blizzard on the 8th, but reached One-Ton Camp on the morning of the 16th. The dog teams had caught us up some days earlier, and the whole party proceeded in company. A day's rest was given the animals at One-Ton Camp, which we left the 17th. Having regard to the weight of the loads, the heavy surfaces and limited number of animals, I decided to march fifteen miles only every night. This distance has been maintained eight nights, and, so far as we can force, is should be continued.

The ponies are going very steadily and keeping condition remarkably well. The first pony has been shot for expediency, but could have traveled farther. The animals have ten pounds of oats and three pounds of oil cake daily. We are hopeful of getting the men's food supply to the glacier, according to program, without great difficulty, but shall be a day or two later than anticipated.

Motors Abandoned.

We found the motor party waiting at latitude 80½. Two of their number now leave us. The sole cause of the abandonment of the motors was the overheating of the air-cooled engines. Time did not permit of the defects being taken in hand. The system of propulsion of the worst part of the barrier service and crossed several crevasses. Considering inadequate trial, their success has been remarkable. With the experience now gained a reliable tractor could be constructed which could travel anywhere in this region and save the sacrifice of animals.

We are building snow cairns at intervals of four miles to guide the homeward parties and leaving a week's provision at every degree of latitude to the barrier. The surface was extremely bad and trying to the ponies up to One-Ton Camp, but has been comparatively good since. The greater number of the ponies have been dragging over 650 pounds.

Through Violent Storms.

December 10, latitude 83 degrees 15 minutes.—After the return of the motor party from latitude 81 degrees 15 minutes we pushed steadily south,

hopeful for better weather conditions. A second pony was destroyed at latitude 82 degrees 10 minutes, a third at latitude 82 degrees 45 minutes and two more near the 83d parallel. None of these animals was exhausted, but were sacrificed on account of lightening loads and as food for dogs.

As we approached the weather grew worse, snowstorms were frequent, the sky continually overcast and land very rarely visible. Under these circumstances it was most difficult to keep a straight course and maintain steady marches. The ponies continued to pull splendidly. The excellent condition they retained under severe work I attribute entirely to the management of Capt. Oates. In spite of delays we reached latitude 83 degrees 24 minutes within twelve miles of Mount Hope, December 4. We could have reached the glacier with five ponies on the following day but for the intervention of a southerly gale which lasted four days, during which we did not sight land, although only a few miles away. The wind was very violent at times, a prodigious amount of snow fell and we had continually to dig out the ponies and tents. The temperature rose to plus 3, the snow melting on our equipment and completely soaking everything with water. No such prolonged storm has hitherto been recorded in these regions in December.

Slow Progress in the Deep Snow.

The 9th, after the storm, eighteen inches of wet snow covered the originally soft surface. We could not have advanced at all had not the leading pony worn snow shoes. The men hauled on skis. It took fourteen hours without a meal to do eight miles. At the first halt the ponies were destroyed, as we had no more forage for them. Today we have come through the pass and descended on Beardmore glacier, but only with infinite difficulty and after twelve hours' work. The soft snow brought by the storm continued over the pass. Men on foot sank to their knees, and sledges sank to their crossbars continually. The dogs have given some help, but could only be lightly laden on such a surface.

I send this note by returning teams. The party is very fit, but cannot keep up the hours which we have been working. The storm has already cost us five days. Its effect may yet delay us further, which would be a serious matter. Otherwise everything has worked as planned. We hope to find better conditions as we advance up the glacier. We are necessarily dependent on the weather, and the season thus far has been very unpromising.

Hard to Cover Five Miles a Day.

December 21, latitude 85 degrees 7 minutes, south, longitude 163 degrees 4 minutes east, height about 6800 feet, four miles south, thirty west, of Mount Darwin. Largely as a result of the storm reported in my last dispatch, the lower reaches of the glacier were filled with terrible soft snow. Men on foot sank to the knees at each step. It would have been quite impossible to advance had we not pulled on skis. As it was, the runner surface of sledges proved inadequate. They frequently sank to the crossbars, requiring to be extracted with standing pulls. For four days we struggled in this morass, scarcely advancing five miles a day, although working ten to eleven hours. It is difficult to pitch camp and load sledges on such a surface. On the fifth day, the surface grew a little harder and we were able to push on, still pulling on skis. We did not get abreast of Cloud-breaker mountain until the 17th; so that the snow cost us a week's advance.

Since the 15th we have been able to make very good marches, working up from thirteen to twenty-three statute miles per day. By program I arranged to push on from the eighty-fifth parallel with eight men and twelve units of provisions, but I hoped to reserve a margin over this. As we stand we are only half a day's food short on program and should have a good chance of getting through. The weather continues unsatisfactory. We had to march without sight of land

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on occasions. We are getting intermittent fog in this most crevassed part of the glacier. Everybody is in the best of health and spirits.

It has been most difficult to select the returning party of four which carries this note. Our position constitutes our upper glacier depot. Complete depots have been established on the homeward route. The track of the barrier is well marked with snow cairns. The members going forward are Scott, Lieut. Evans, Wilson, Bowers, Oates, Lashley, Petty Officer Evans and Crean.

Last Word From Scott.

January 3, 1912, latitude 87.32, height 9800 feet.—After leaving the upper glacier depot, south of Mount Darwin, I steered southwest two days. This did not keep us clear of pressure ridges and crevasses, which occurred frequently at first and gave us trouble, but we rose rapidly in altitude. Probably the difficult places were more snow-covered than farther eastward. The advantage of this course was mainly felt on the third and fourth days, when, owing to our altitude, we got a splendid view of the distribution of land masses fringing the ice sheet and the arrangement of ice falls. Since leaving the depot our marches have averaged over fifteen statute miles a day.

Christmas day we were close up to the 86th parallel, and the prospect of Christmas fare gave us an excellent march, seventeen miles, but the effect was not so happy the following day. The surface grew more difficult as we approached the 87th parallel. New Year eve, in latitude 86 degrees 56 minutes, we depoted there a unit of provisions and rebuilt our sledges with new short runners, which remarkable piece of work was preformed by the seamen of the party under adverse conditions.

Although it cost us nearly a day's march, the change amply repaid us. We have been able to keep up our average, and we are now within 150 miles of the pole.

Goes Forward With Party of Five.

I am going forward with a party of five men, sending three back under Lieut. Evans with this note. The names and descriptions of the advance party are Capt. Scott, R. N.; Dr. Wilson, chief of the scientific staff; Capt. Oates, Innes-killing Dragoons, in charge of the ponies and mules; Lieut. Bowers, Royal Indian marine, commissariat officer; Petty Officer Evans, R. N., in charge of sledges and equipment. The advance party goes forward

with a month's provisions, and the prospects of success seem good, providing the weather holds and no unforeseen obstacles arise.

It has been very difficult to choose the returning party, as every one was fit and able to go forward. Those who return are naturally much disappointed. Every one has worked his hardest. The weather on the plateau has never deserted us, but the temperatures are low, now about minus 20 degrees, and the wind pretty constant. However, we are excellently equipped for such conditions, and the wind undoubtedly improves the surface. So far all arrangements have worked out most satisfactorily. It is more than probable that no further news will be received from us this year, as our return must necessarily be late.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.

Lieut. Pennell Expects Success.

Lieut. Pennell expressed the utmost confidence in the ultimate success of Capt. Scott and his party, and declared that the scientific work being performed by the expedition was of an extremely valuable party, the Terra Nova was compelled, owing to the bad ice conditions, to leave behind Lieut. Campbell's party, who were landed at Drygaisky barrier, and thence sledged into the interior. Both parties, however, were fully prepared for this emergency, says the commander of the Terra Nova, and no alarm need be felt for their safety.

The two geological expeditions on the west coast have produced good results, coal and fossils, which latter had not been discovered before, being found. The health of the members of the expedition is excellent, the only exception being Lieut. Evans, who is now convalescing from scurvy. The Terra Nova returns south in November next.

GOLF AND TENNIS.

The place for recreation and a quiet time is Haleiwa. The golf links are as good as any in the country, the wind from the sea constantly blows in and the view of the country adds to the attractions of the place. There is a tennis court, as well, and the best swimming beach on this island; no coral, no broken bottles. The table at Haleiwa attracts many tourists who leave satisfied and well pleased with what they have seen and with their entertainment. The management of the hotel has an automobile in the rent service and guests secure it for rides through the country where the pine are growing yellow on their plants.